

McNamee House
CE-900
Near Rock Springs
Private

C. 1840-1850

The McNamee house is certainly not without duplicates but in Cecil County at least it remains as a rare example of a two story three bay half fieldstone half log house with a definite Scotch-Irish background. Frederick McNamee bought a 70 acre tract called "Tombs" from Elizabeth Hallowell for \$860 in 1852 and presumably built the present structure. The use of local building materials such as fieldstone and log is not an exclusively Scotch-Irish tradition but the culture has a long history of using local materials in the construction of their houses. The two room floor plan with enclosed central stair is another feature found in other documented Scotch-Irish buildings.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CE - 900

File #882

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

McNamee House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

New Bridge Rd. south side 1 1/2 mile east of intersection
with Connelly Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Conowingo

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
☐ ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE
☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY
☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John and Carol Connelly

Telephone #: 658-5227

STREET & NUMBER

Connelly Road

CITY, TOWN

Conowingo

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21918

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Liber #: WAS 89

Folio #: 74

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McNamee House c. ^{1850 - 1855} ~~1825-1850~~ is a ~~2~~ 1 1/2 story half stone and half log structure located down a long lane off the Rock Springs - New Bridge Road. The main facade has a south-eastern exposure while the main gable runs on a northeast/southwest compass axis. A large bank barn is the only farm structure left from the once productive farm.

The main block is a hall/parlor plan, 3 bays across by one room deep. The raised uncoursed fieldstone basement supports a story and a half log structure. A shed roof porch extends across the main facade, with the main deck being elevated. A later two story gabled kitchen addition was attached to the south end. It retained a similar pitch to the original roof.

A small shed addition is attached to the south end of this last section.

The main facade is 3 bays across with entrances found in the central bay of each floor. The basement opening has a board door with horizontal braces. The second floor entrance has a 4 panel door with a transom light and slightly beaded door surrounds. The windows have a six over six sash with plain surrounds. The stone had been stuccoed at one time but presently is in a crumbling condition. The logs are covered with an asbestos siding over weatherboarding. The logs were unexposed, therefore the joining method was not visible. A boxed cornice is found at eave level and at the base of a medium pitched corrugated tin roof. An interior end stretcher bond stack rises out of the south gable end of the main block. The front porch is from rather early date and possibly as early as the rest of the house. The need for an elevated entrance to the second floor is definite. It also offers protection and a place to catch cool breezes coming over the hill. The porch railings are mortised into the main posts. 5 horizontal railings between every main post. The roof is a continuation of the pitch of the main block.

The north gable end has two 6/6 sash on the second floor and a 6/6 sash in the peak of the gable to light the attic rooms. A plain barge board closes the eave.

There is a single six over six sash that illuminates the basement (earlier) kitchen room, and two six over six sash that light the two second floor rooms. The southern addition has a single six over six light.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

The interior of the structure has not changed drastically over the years. A kitchen was added to the south to modernize the present conditions of a open fireplace in the basement with a room to the north for cool storage. A stair rises in the center of the house to once two rooms - presently three, and inclosed to the two finished attic rooms. The first floor is stucco over stone with deep sills and molded window surrounds. (See drawings)

The fireplace has been closed up but the simple mantel shelf remains. The stair rises to the second floor with a hand rail only supported by a newel and first floor ceiling. There are no balusters.

The door and window surrounds are a bit wider on the second floor (see profile). The walls are plastered. The baseboard has a simple corner bead. A small mantel shelf is found in the main room. A later door was cut through the south wall for entrance into the addition. The attic stair is inclosed with a beaded partition and board door. The other rooms^{are} similar in detail with a new partition wall added to enclose^a bathroom.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house, although very isolated, is extremely important as the remaining example of this form of building in the general area.

Structures with elevated stone basements are not uncommon in the county, and especially along the Susquehanna. The house retains an extraordinary amount of early detail and efforts should be made to retain the character of this farmhouse. This type of house, however, was the only one of its kind in the Conowingo Area.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 70 Acres**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

9/29/78

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-7568

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

WAS 89/74 3/24/1960	Chester D. Wayne and Effie May Wayne to John M, Fred P. and Paul Y. Connelly Original tracts called "Tombs" Part - 70 acres	
RRC 62/259 6/9/1951	Ralph E. Thomas and Doris P. Thomas to Chester and Effie May Wayne 70 acres	
RRC 27/324 9/30/1947	Chester D. Wayne and Effie May Wayne to Ralph L. Thomas 70 acres	
WEB 23/366 1/30/1942	Ollie B. Lindamood to Chester D. Wayne 70 acres	
SRA 10/494 10/4/1930	David S. Cline to Ollie Lindamood	\$1300.00

"The following farm or tract of land, situate, lying, and being in the 8th election district of Cecil Co., on the south side of the public road leading from Rock Springs to New Bridge, and adjoining properties now owned or formerly owned by Sam Moore, John Sterrett and the heirs of Henry Reynolds, and the land of Albert Reynolds particularly mentioned and described by Metes and Bounds in a deed from Joshua P. McKay, Trustee, to M. S. McNamee, dated the 16th of June, 1896 and recorded in J.T.G. 11/141 and being the same real estate which was conveyed unto Annie M. Reynolds by Merritt S. McNamee on 3/15/1910 - CK. 2/174

CK 2/174 3/15/1910	Merritt S. McNamee to Annie M. Reynolds	
JTG 11/141	Equity Case 1914 - MD 1/432 Jan. 1895 case between Merritt S. McNamee VS. W.A. McNamee "Tombs" - Bordering lands of Henry Reynolds 70 acres of land	Executor Joshua P. McCay

WILL 13/65

Frederick McNamee died 1877

Executor Merritt S. McNamee left everything to Sarah Ann McNamee who died March 1894. Question arose as to sale of property and equal dispersal between rightful heirs. Finally sold to Merritt S. McNamee and Cornelia - Advertisement - Cecil Democrat Aug. 20, 1895. (see photocopy of article) For appraised price of \$2000.00

HHM 1/171

Elizabeth Hallowell

to

8/7/1852

Frederick McNamee

70 acres or "Tombs" ~~improvements~~ \$860

GMC 4/259

Lewis Thomas

to

6/18/1843

Elizabeth Hallowell

JS 22/23 & 109

Andrew Richard Porter

April 15/1824

JS 33/64

Stephen House

Nov. 6/1833

to

Lewis Thomas

JS 33/64

Stephen House

to

11/6/1833

Lewis Thomas

"Part of a tract called Tombs with improvements"

JS 22/23

Andrew R. Porter

to

4/15/1824

Lewis Thomas

\$3130 for 313 acres

TAX ASSESSMENTS

1852 ELIZ. HALLOWELL WAS ASSESSED FOR 70 ACRES ^{ALONE} AND NO PERSONAL PROPERTY WAS LISTED. 1050 -

1853 FRED. MCNAMEE. 70 ACRES & BUILDINGS - \$1260 PLUS PERSONAL ASSESSMENT WHICH INCLUDES FURNITURE, LIVESTOCK ETC.

→ APPEARS AS IF PRESENT A HOUSE WAS BUILT BY FREDERICK MCNAMEE IN 1853.

TRUSTEE'S SALE

-OF A-

VALUABLE FARM.

Under and by virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court of Cecil County, passed in the case of Merritt S. McNamee vs. William A. McNamee et. al., No 1014 Equity, the undersigned, as Trustee, will sell at Public Auction, on

Wednesday, 12th day of June, 1895,


AT 1 O'CLOCK P. M. ALL THAT

FARM OR TRACT OF LAND,

situate, lying and being near the village of Rock Springs, in Cecil County aforesaid, whereon Merritt S. McNamee now resides, and lying along the public road, leading from Rock Springs to Rising Sun, and containing

70 ACRES OF LAND,

MORE OR LESS, and adjoining the lands of J. Albert Boyd, Mrs. Ann Moore and others.

The improvements consist of a good substantial  2 1/2 STORY DWELLING HOUSE 20x30 feet, containing 6 rooms with basement Kitchen, a good Barn 40x30 feet, Carriage and Wagon House 20x30 feet, and a good Stone Spring House. There is also an Apple Orchard of choice fruit and Pear and Peach trees of good varieties in thriving condition upon the premises.

This land is of most excellent quality, well fenced and in a high state of cultivation, and is in close proximity to schools, stores, postoffice and churches. The property is well watered and there is a good well of water at the barn. This is a most desirable property and one of the best farms in Cecil County.

TERMS OF SALE as prescribed by the decree are: One-third of the purchase money to be paid in Cash on the day of sale; one-third in six months and the remaining one-third in twelve months from day of sale, and the credit payments to bear interest from date of sale, and to be secured by bond or note of the purchaser.

Cost of conveyance to be paid by purchaser.

B. F. TAYLOR, Auct.
May 12-4w

JOSHUA P. McCAY,
Trustee.

Certificate of Publication

Office of The Cecil Democrat,

Elkton, Md., Aug 30 1895

I Hereby Certify, That the annexed Advertisement of the sale of the real estate case of McNamee vs McNamee was published in "THE CECIL DEMOCRAT," a weekly newspaper printed and published in Cecil County, Md., once a week for four successive weeks prior to the 12th day of June 1895

Wm. P. Co. Publisher.

Per Geo. B. Ash

CE-900

MARYLAND

CECIL CO

CONOWINGO MD / PA ROAD

Rock Springs

New Valley Sch

CE-900

Porters Grove Ch

Richardsmere

Kilby Corner

Conowingo Sta

Rowlandsville

4396

42'30"

4395

4394

(RISING SUN)
5763 II NE

4393

4192

40'

4391

WISCONSIN 3 MI
PHILADELPHIA, PA 38 MI



McNAMEE HOUSE

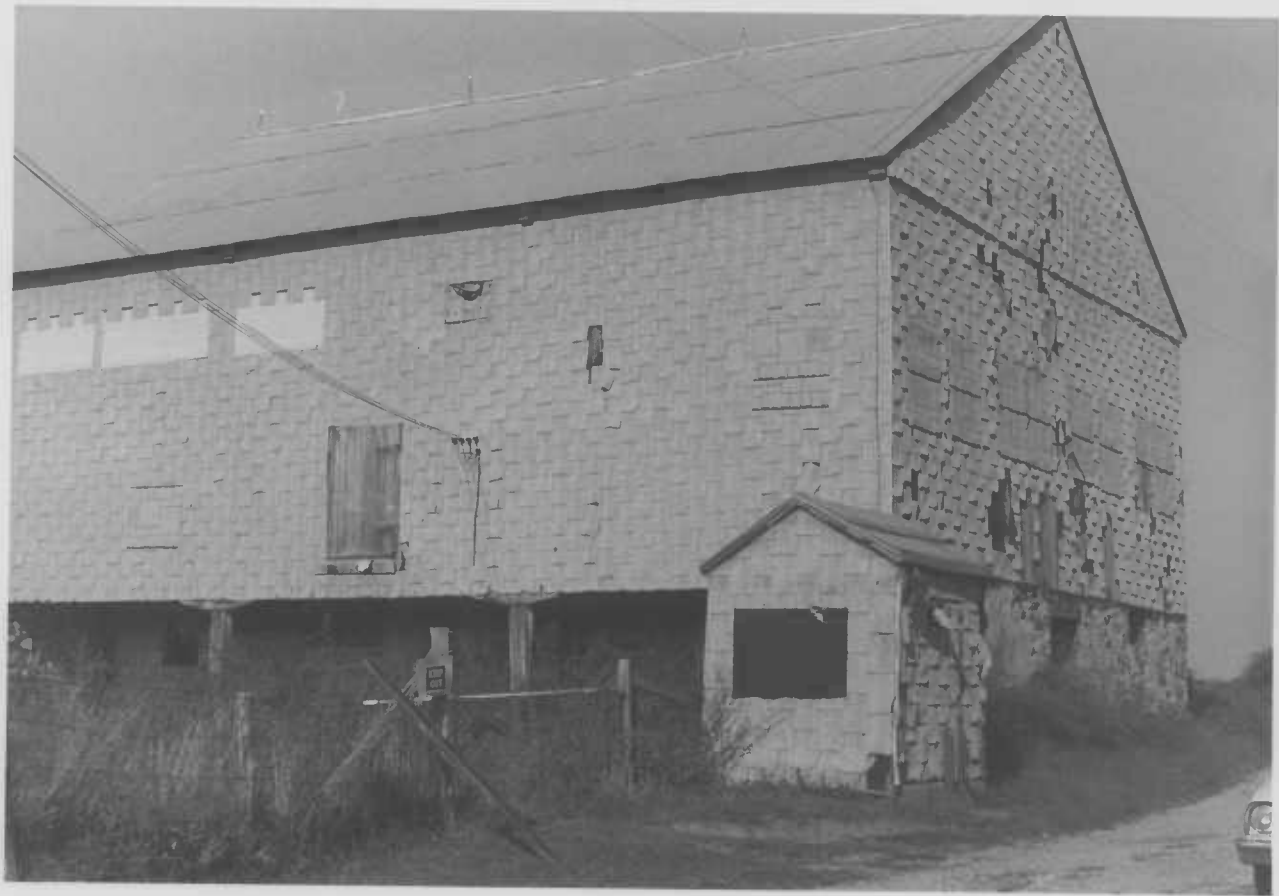
CE-908

NORTH ELEVATION

CONOWINGO, MD.

PBT

9/78



Mc NAMEE HOUSE

CE-900

SOUTHEASTERN ELEVATION

COWOWINGO, ND.